

DETAILED ACTION

Status of Claims

Claims 1-35, 59, and 60 have been cancelled; and claims 36-58 and 61-65 remain for examination.

Status of the Previous Rejections

The previous rejection of claims 36-43, 50-56, 58, 61 and 65 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Chang (US patent 5,448,447, Hereafter US'447), or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by US'447 as evidenced by He et al (US, 6,786,951 B2, thereafter US'951) is withdrawn in view the BPAI decision marked 3/30/2010.

The previous rejection of claims 48, 49, 57 and 62-64 under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over US'447 as evidenced by US'951 is withdrawn in view the BPAI decision marked 3/30/2010.

The previous rejection of claims 36-47, 49-58, and 61-65 under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over WO 98/37248 (WO'248, Corresponding U.S. Patent No. 6,193,779) in view of US'447, and further in view of US'951 is withdrawn in view the BPAI decision marked 3/30/2010.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 36-58 and 61-65 are allowed. The reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter can refer to the BPAI decision marked 3/30/2010.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jie Yang whose telephone number is 571-2701884. The examiner can normally be reached on IFP.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Roy King can be reached on 571-2721244. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JY

/ Roy King/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1793